

Life Goes On In Hancock County

Making the most of Coast living after Hurricane Katrina. Page 9

The Sea Coast Echo

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Thursday
Sept. 22, 2005

Hurricane resources

Federal Emergency Management Agency: 1-800-621-3362 (TTY: 1-800-462-7585). Mississippi Emergency Management Agency: 601-352-9100. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: 1-800-311-3485. American Red Cross: 1-866-GET-INFO (1-866-438-4636). Mississippi Dept. of Health: 1-866-458-4948. Epidemiology reporting line: 1-800-556-0033. West Nile Virus hotline: 877-978-6453.

Contact us at the Echo

Call us at our voice messaging system, 228-467-5474; or directly by cell phone: Randy Ponder, 228-504-0814; Geoff Belcher, 228-332-0257; Bennie Shallbetter, 228-332-0255; John Few, 228-216-6272; or Jace Ponder, 228-332-0027.

Volunteers for tree removal

Volunteers are available to help cut, but not haul, downed trees. If you need this service call the Emergency Operations Center at 228-466-8210.

Taylor to host town hall meet

Congressman Gene Taylor will host a Hancock County town meeting on Saturday, Sept. 24, from 9-11 a.m. at the Hancock County Vo-Tech Center at Stennis Airport. Everyone is invited.

SBA grants

Grant dollars may be available through the Small Business Administration to help small businesses reopen. Apply through FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA.

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A flag drapes the Iron "Bay St. Louis" sign in downtown Bay St. Louis. Photo courtesy of Bret Curry/Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas

Meeting to ensure Bay St. Louis will no longer be 'A Place Torn Apart'

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Bay Saint Louis Mayor Eddie Favre will address citizens on the grounds of the historic depot Saturday evening at 6 p.m. Citizens are asked to bring a blanket or a lawn chair and begin gathering to meet their friends and family for this historic gathering.

"We have all worked very hard during the last three weeks and we need some time for fellowship," said the Mayor from his temporary office in the day room of the city's fire department.

The mayor and his staff are preparing a status report of the city's infrastructure repairs and future plans for the city. Staff members will be on hand to answer individual questions on the restoration of city services to various neighborhoods.

"I cannot answer every question, but I can tell you what we have accomplished and how we plan to return Bay Saint Louis' status as 'A Place Apart'," he stated.

A return of basic city services is

HOPE--PAGE 6

Bay Council considers updates for next storm

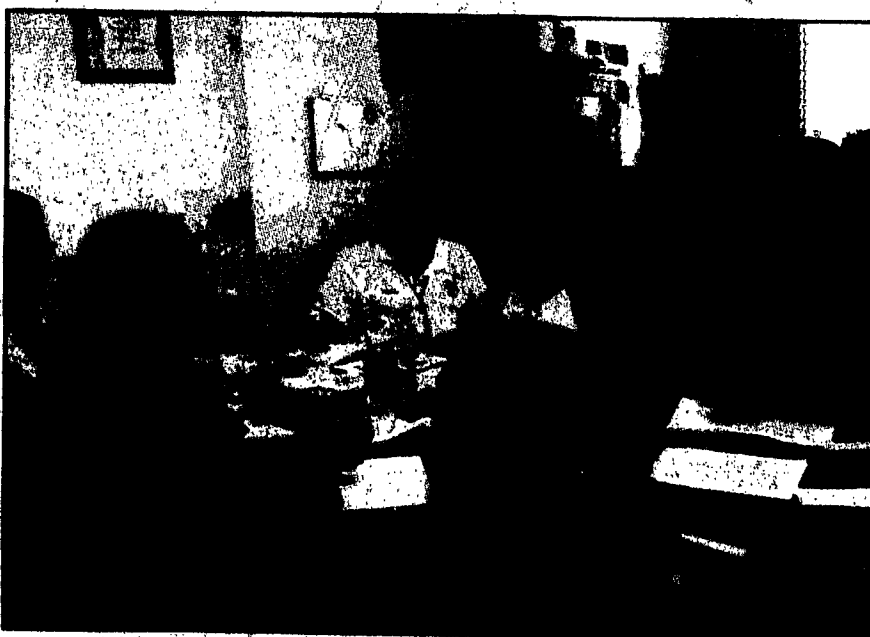
BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Bay St. Louis building official Bill Carragee told councilmen that new standards in flood regulations indicate the need for a two foot increase in base flood elevation levels. The Hancock County will raise

their freeboard four feet. Carragee recommended raising the freeboard in Bay St. Louis three feet. Freeboard is the number of feet above base flood elevation that a property owner must build a structure.

Carragee said that because

COUNCIL--PAGE 6



Bay St. Louis City Council will meet again on Tuesday, September 27 at 5 p.m. at the Bay St. Louis Depot.

Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter

Jonathan and Beverly Davis' family store has become a refuge for the Bay Side community. The property houses a laundry, showers, and distributes food and supplies to the area. Jonathan and Beverly Davis' family store has become a refuge for the Bay Side community. The property houses a laundry, showers, and distributes food and supplies to the area.

Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter

Davis Family Grocery becomes Bayside refuge

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Jonathan and Beverly Davis' family store has become a center for the Bay Side park communi-

ty in recent weeks. The Davis' opened the store about a month before Hurricane Katrina turned the area into a wasteland

BAYSIDE--PAGE 6

Waveland couple survives Hurricane Katrina with 'international' flair

Editor's note: The following is the first in a continuing series of articles detailing the firsthand accounts of survivors of Hurricane Katrina.

By GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

Before Hurricane Katrina actually struck the Mississippi Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, everyone knew it would be bad, but no one had comprehended the sheer force and ferocity of the killer storm. No one knew that its 150-mph winds carried with them an impenetrable 35-foot wall of water which demolished everything in its path, laying waste to all of Hancock County's coastal communities.

Although Mick and Adrienne Quinlan of Waveland may have preferred to evacuate before Katrina hit the Coast, as residency program supervisors at St. Stanislaus College, they were duty-bound to stay behind with the international boarding students who weren't able to return to their homes.

"We assure those parents when they drop their kids off in August that their children will be safe," Mick said.

And as far as anyone knew, they were.

Although St. Stanislaus is built like a fortress and was built to Hurricane Camille standards, most of the school's boarding students were evacuated by 5 p.m. on the Friday before the storm as a safety precaution. Still, 46 students - mostly from South America, Mexico and Korea, were unable to get back home and were forced to stay at the school along with the Quinlans and a handful of other faculty and staff.

Even so, Adrienne said, that happens during just about every major storm. The students move their mattresses to a room at the back of the school on the second floor and everyone waits around for the storm to pass.

"It's like a little slumber party," she said.

But Katrina broke up the party when its winds started howling by 4 a.m. on Monday.

"Every half-hour, or so," Mick said, "we saw the Gulf just slowly rising."

Just a couple of hours later, the cars "just started floating around like Tonka trucks," Mick said, "and started pounding into the building."

"At 9:30, my cell phone rings," Adrienne said. "It's Marissa and Susan," two members of the kitchen staff who had volunteered to stay through the hurricane. "Susan tells me the water is rising in the cafeteria and they need help."

Debris carried by the rising water had blocked the doors, trapping the two women in the kitchen.

Mick located the school principal, Bro.



Mick and Adrienne Quinlan

Ronald Hingle, who took staff members J.P. Bromke and Nate Phillips to help rescue the stranded ladies.

"They took off on this series of connected walkways between the buildings," Adrienne said. "The men had to clear the debris, then go back across the walkways. The water at that point was about 25 feet above sea level. ... By the time they got everyone back to safety, the winds were in excess of 120 miles per hour. ... If someone had been swept off the walkway, they would have just been gone."

Just minutes later, Mick said, "The floor we were one was 35 feet above sea level, and you could see the waves crashing just below the windows. It was just wild, man."

"Water was coming up through the elevator shaft," Adrienne said. "If we had to, we were going to cram the 46 kids up into the attic."

Fortunately, she said, the eyewall passed and the water started flowing back out of the school.

"We thought, 'Thank God, it's over with,'" Adrienne said. Then we started smelling natural gas."

Mick and the other men went down to the chemistry lab, he said: "It took us about an hour, but we cut all those valves off - we could still smell the gas."

They traced the source of the smell to a gas main which had broken, but was still under water outside, with gas bubbling to the surface.

"Brother Joseph got a big ol' monkey wrench and went out into the storm," Adrienne said. "The cars were still moving (in the rushing tide) and debris was flying, but he went out there and felt down where that big valve was and cut off the gas leak. ... We thought for sure the building was going to blow up."

After the worst of the storm had passed, Bro. Ronald toured the grounds to assess the damage.

"In the gym," Mick said, "he saw fish and jellyfish swimming around. That made me smile."

By late Monday evening, it was obvious that everyone at the school had survived. Unfortunately, it was also obvious that the storm had claimed much of the food they had set aside to feed everyone in case they had become isolat-

ed. Which of course, they were. Katrina had destroyed most of the coastal area of Hancock County.

"By Tuesday morning," Mick said, "we had enough food for one more meal."

That's when the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, the order which

operates St. Stanislaus, came to the rescue.

"We were finally able to get in touch with the brothers at the McGill-Toolan Institute," Mick said, a sister school in Alabama. "They put a plan together to send a charter bus from Mobile. Bro. Paul Mulligan charted a bus and it

showed up before noon on Tuesday."

The bus took the Quinlans, 15 of the brothers and the 46 students to safe haven in Mobile.

"The big problem at that point," Mick said, "was that all the paperwork for the international students was gone with the wind and the water - visas, etc., were destroyed. The students wouldn't be able to get back in their countries."

Eight of the students were going to various places in the U.S. to stay with family members, Adrienne said, so flight arrangements were made for them fairly easily the next day.

"Adrienne and Bro. Ronald went to Catholic High in Baton Rouge" with 38 of the students, Mick said, where the boys sheltered in the wrestling room, with supplies and services provided by the school parents' club.

"In the meantime, one of the kid's parents were friends with the Mexican Consulate," he said. "The Mexican Consulate flew from Mexico City to Houston when he heard we had 20 or so of his students, and drove to Baton Rouge. He worked

QUINLANS—PAGE 12

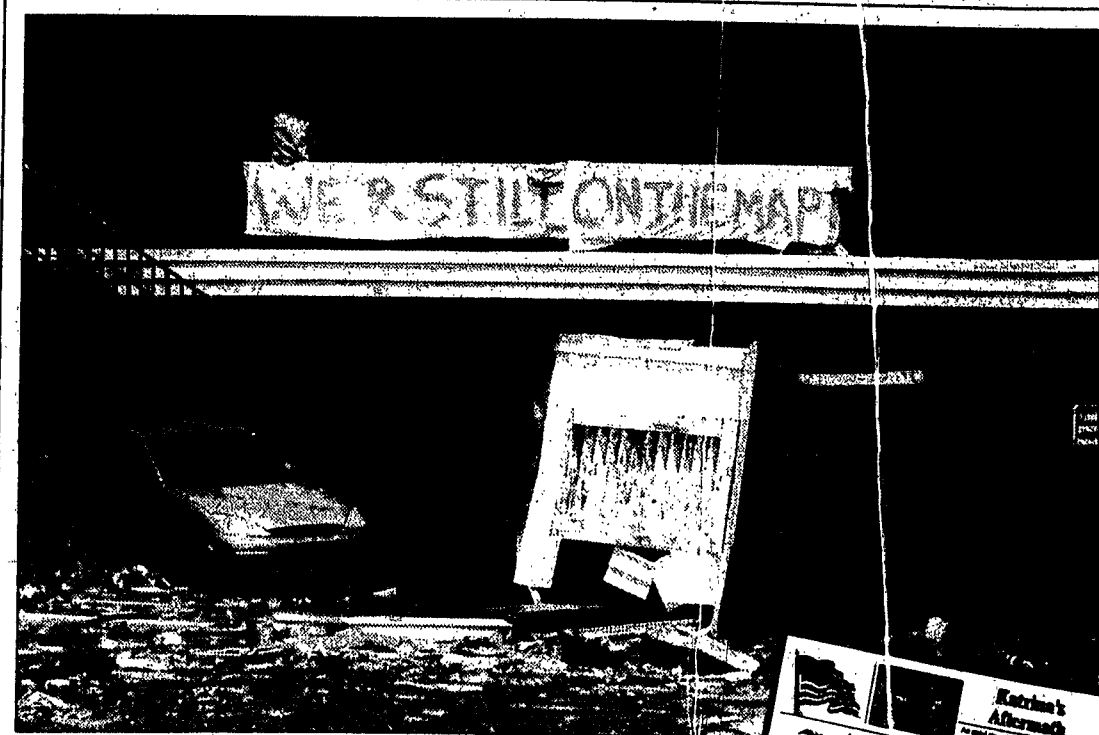
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Homeland Security visits Hancock

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff visited Hancock County on Friday telling supervisors that the President was well aware of the devastation in the area and is interested in helping the coast recover. Chancery clerk Tim Kellar told Chertoff that he felt that Hancock county was lost somewhere between New Orleans and other larger communities like Gulfport and Biloxi.

Chertoff assured Kellar that the federal government was well aware of the situation in Hancock County and would receive help just as other more publicized areas. He made no promises as to a time line for that help nor could he give any estimates on amounts.

Board President Rocky Pullman said this is not the time for the federal government to be cutting their budget.

The federal government needs to step in and make sure that businesses and their support systems such as railways and roads are able to get up and running, Pullman said.

In other business:

- Supervisors gave their approval for Tax Assessor Collector Jimmie Ladner to begin a ground, and possible assessment of the area. The purpose would be to get a preliminary count on the number of buildings destroyed by Katrina.

- Supervisors talked about the future needs of the county once people begin to move into temporary housing.

People will need household goods such as pots and pans, linens and things to make a home. Several private relief groups have offered help in the area. One, International Relief, has offered to set up in the county, take orders for needs and distribute goods. However, they want the county to sign an agreement with them for the service. They would also use the county as a staging area for relief to other nearby areas.

Supervisors approved the relief with the understanding that current relief workers would be included in the effort and that the county could opt out of the agreement if it did not work as expected.

- Supervisors sent a request to the Department of Marine Resources to help with the cleanup of all area waterways including canals, bayous, rivers and the bay.

Many canals and bayous are clogged with wrecked boats, homes and debris.



Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff speaks with Hancock County officials on Friday. Chertoff said that the President is aware of the situation in the county. Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter

Moore & Powell Certified Public Accountants, P.A.

TO OUR CONCERNED FRIENDS, CLIENTS AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATES:

Moore & Powell has weathered Hurricane Katrina and is currently open and operating in our Diamondhead, Mississippi office. Like many of you, our Bay St. Louis office sustained significant damage. However, all of our data and files are safe. Together, we will rebuild.

During this trying process, we are here for you. We can assist you with tax and insurance loss calculations, loan applications and any other matters pertaining to the recovery process. All tax returns and tax payments, including quarterly estimated taxes, that are due after August 29, 2005 are extended until January 3, 2006. A link to the IRS' website is available on our website at www.moorepowell.com.

Should you have any questions, we are located at:

**4300 B Gex Road
Diamondhead, MS 39525
(228) 255-3883**

We wish to express our heartfelt sympathy to all who have suffered losses as a result of this unprecedented disaster. Our thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you.

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Ponderings

by James R. "Randy" Ponder

Ponder
Editor and Publisher

A family tradition

Publishing a weekly newspaper in the best of circumstances can sometimes be a challenge. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Sea Coast Echo building was still standing but had suffered severe water damage. Everything inside the structure was lost, including all computers and the printing press.

With help from Carolyn Wilson at the Mississippi Press Association and several other newspapers, namely the Picayune Item and publisher Tom Andrews, we were able to set up an office in my dining room. With three computers and a couple of cameras, and a staff of John Few, Geoff Belcher, Juan Alejandro and my son Jace, we were able to get the Echo out to the public. Bennie Shallbetter, Mike Benson and Shea Few

have also joined us now. Did I mention my wife Sherry? She has been fantastic, picking up news copy, typesetting, taking photos, getting supplies, etc. She has also been very tolerant of us taking over her home and creating all kinds of minor disasters. My youngest son Patrick has also pitched in to help. This has truly been a complete family effort. And when I say family, I also

include the employees named earlier. Because in reality, a small newspaper staff is very much like a family. At times dysfunctional, but still a family.

Initially, we had to print on Tuesday and Friday. We are now back to our normal schedule of Thursday and Sunday circulation. With over half our subscribers without homes, most of local businesses gone, we are delivering newspapers where ever we find people. The points of distribution (PODs) is where just about everyone passes through. They are handing out papers for us. Churches, hospitals, gas stations, shelters, any place there are people, we place the Echo. With this issue we have resumed limited home delivery. We have also increased our press run and have given the paper out free of charge.

Jace, my oldest son at age 20, was working part time at the newspaper prior to Katrina. It was a temporary arrangement to give him something to do while taking a semester off from college. He wasn't too excited about working at dad's newspaper. He was just sort of drifting along, with no clear direction as to what he really wanted to do with school and his

PONDERING--PAGE 8

SURVIVAL ITEMS ONLY YOU CAN SUPPLY



FEMA questions & answers

FEMA questions and answers

Personal Property Damage

If you are in need of individual assistance with housing or personal property damage, FEMA may be able to assist you with a grant or a low interest loan. For more information, call FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362).

Business Loss

If you have losses to your business, rental property, etc., FEMA will refer you to the Small Business Administration who may be able to assist you with a low interest loan. For more information, call FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362).

Agricultural Loss

If you have suffered agricultural losses, the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce can direct you to the proper contact to request assistance based on the type of crop you have lost. For more information, call the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce at 601-359-1100.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: Disaster Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

What is FEMA? FEMA is the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which is responsible for providing and coordinating emergency services in Federally declared disaster areas. FEMA works as a partner with other parts of the Federal government and with State and local governments and voluntary organizations.

What types of help are available in a disaster? Two primary Federal programs offer disaster help:

• FEMA's Individuals

and Households Program provides money and direct services to those affected by a major disaster. Requirements must be met to qualify for help from this program.

• The U.S. Small Business Administration provides low-interest loans for damage to property owned by homeowners, renters, businesses and private non-profit organizations that are not fully covered by insurance.

Does disaster help have to be repaid? Money received through FEMA's Individuals and Households Program does not have to be repaid. Loans from the Small Business Administration must be repaid.

Can I apply for help for my damaged car? Yes. You will need to provide proof of ownership and insurance information.

Can I apply for help for food that has been lost because of the disaster? No. Food loss is not covered by IHP. Voluntary organizations in the disaster area may be able to help you with food needs.

Will any program pay for moving and storage expenses? Costs of moving and storage may be covered by IHP, if these costs are directly related to the disaster. Submit receipts to IHP to see if they are covered.

What happens after I apply for help with FEMA? Within about ten days of your application to FEMA, a qualified inspector will contact you to set up a time to see the damage to your property that was caused by the disaster. Your losses will be recorded and submitted to IHP. Within about ten more days, you should have a decision about whether you qualify for help from IHP. If you have been referred for a disaster loan from the US Small Business Administration (SBA),

SBA will also contact you and schedule an appointment to review your disaster-related losses.

How long will it take to get FEMA/State disaster help? If you are eligible for help, you should receive a US Treasury/State check or notification of a deposit to your bank account within about ten days of the inspector's visit. Other types of help may be provided later, based on specific eligibility and need.

If I have questions about my application or need to change some of the information I provided, what should I do? Call the FEMA Disaster Helpline at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) (hearing/speech impaired only: 1-800-462-7585).

If it has been more than 12 days since the FEMA inspector's visit and there has been no word from FEMA, what should I do? Call the FEMA Disaster Helpline at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) (hearing/speech impaired only: 1-800-462-7585) to ask about your application. If there is a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in your area, you also may inquire there about your application.

If I do not agree with the results of the inspection or with the amount of money I received from FEMA, what should I do? You can appeal the decision. Appeal procedures are outlined in this guide (page 12), or you can call the FEMA Disaster Helpline at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) (hearing/speech impaired only: 1-800-462-7585) for information about the appeal process.

What type of ownership documentation can I provide to support my application for help?

Below are a few types of documents that may be provided to prove

ownership:

• Deed or Official record may be the original deed or deed of trust to the property listing you as the legal owner.

• Title number that lists you on the actual escrow or title document for the purchase of the dwelling.

• Mortgage payment book or other mortgage documents (i.e. late payment notice, foreclosure notice) may be used to verify the ownership when your name is listed along with the damaged dwelling address.

• Real property insurance must be for the damage dwelling you are occupying with your name listed as the Insured.

• Tax receipts or a property tax bill showing the damaged dwelling and listing you as the responsible party to the assessments.

What type of occupancy documentation can I provide to support my application for help?

Below are a few types of documents that may be provided to prove occupancy:

• Utility Bill for the damaged dwelling you are occupying with your name (or name of co-applicant). The utility bill should be for one of the major utilities, such as electricity, gas, or water.

• Merchant's Statement sent to the damaged dwelling you are occupying with your name (or name of co-applicant). Merchant statements include: credit card bills, delivery notices, or other first class mail addressed to you and showing the damaged dwelling address.

• Employer's Statement sent to the damaged dwelling you are occupying with your

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The Sea Coast Echo

USPS 487-100

Published Thursday and Sunday each week at 124 Court Street, Bay St. Louis, MS. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Sea Coast Echo, P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009. Periodical postage paid at Bay St. Louis, MS. Phone (228) 467-5474



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Hancock County, Pass Christian,
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110th Year of Publication

Member of the Mississippi Press Association
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Hancock County recovery update

READ THE SEA COAST ECHO OR TUNE TO 103.5 FM FOR REGULAR HANCOCK COUNTY RECOVERY INFO or call

Hancock County Info lines Monday thru Friday: (228) 466-8234, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 41

Hundreds of temporary housing have been provided as fast as infrastructure can be completed at a number of sites. Contact FEMA's Disaster recovery center (DRC) at K-mart on 90 or call FEMA Disaster Assistance at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY: 1-800-462-7585 for the speech or hearing impaired.

Registrations can also be made at www.fema.gov. Please have your Social Security Number, Address and Zip Code, insurance info, directions to your damaged home, daytime telephone contact. Providing FEMA with accurate contact information on your application will expedite the process of home inspection. Application can be made for temporary housing at FEMA's site at Skate Park (behind Daddy O's next to Hudsons across from the Waveland PD.)

As of 9/20/05: 20,488 FEMA assistance applications have been received from Hancock County residents. 15,747 have been approved. \$34,745,448 has been paid to those needing temporary housing and other assistance.

FEMA says keep your receipts. Items like generators and chain saws may be reimbursable.

DEBRIS REMOVAL continues. As of 20 September 242 debris trucks have removed 162,000 cubic yards of debris in Hancock County. Corps of Engineers and authorized contractors began removal operations on major roads and in the center of the County and are moving out from there. Residents are being asked to move debris to the road or right-of-way and sort it into piles of construction and demolition materials, vegetation, household waste items, large appliances and hazardous waste. Beware of independent contractors asking for money to clear debris.

BE CAREFUL AROUND THE DEBRIS HAULING TRUCKS... STAY WELL CLEAR.

CONTRACTORS WANTING TO SIGN UP AS DEBRIS HAULERS in Hancock County call 228-586-9160 or 1-800-244-3535. You may not contract for debris removal without registering with the County.

Residents BEWARE of people offering to do clean up work that you

may be able to have done at no cost.

The Hancock County Courthouse has begun restoring and filing Deeds of Trust and Chancery Court cases at the Finance Office at the Emergency Operation Center.

For **HANCOCK COUNTY** business licenses or questions contact Jimmy Ladner at the Tax Assessor's Office at Kiln Delisle Rd. near Dolly's.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is at K-Mart center to provide home and business loans. Counselors will assist residents in obtaining home loans. **Applicants for business loans** are advised to get the SBA application, a FEMA case number and assistance from a CPA to complete the business loan process.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BLUE ROOF PROGRAM sign up at these locations: Train Depot in BSL, Kiln Library, Diamondhead Club (in the Card Room). For info call 228-710-0588. As of 9/20/05: 800 applications have been received; 117 have been installed.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE is available at NO COST from the Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) at the Kmart and at Hancock Hospital. An optometrist is available at Med1 (NC) DMAT in the Kmart parking lot. **Volunteer medical response teams wishing to assist Hancock County residents must register with and obtain credentials from the Mississippi Dept of Health, Bureau of Nursing.**

HEALTH CENTERS are located at Kiln Medical Center, Waveland Health Department, Old Health Department at 90 and Longfellow (also has a Veterinary Clinic), and Save A Center.

Oxygen Refills are available through LIN-CARE: 228-861-3858, 228-861-1049, 228-437-1049

Hancock County Public Health Dept will assist residents in applying for Medicaid. Call (228) 831-5151.

AMERICAN RED CROSS Shelters for Hancock County Area are located at the Hancock North Central Elementary and the Hancock Senior Center in Bay St Louis.

AMERICAN RED CROSS Emergency financial assistance phone is 800-975-7585. A new Red Cross Assistance location will be established at the Sav-A-Center on Hwy 90 starting

FRIDAY, September 23.

PEARLINGTON SHELTER and Distribution Facility are open at Charles B Murphy Elementary. The shelter was completed and will be managed by City Team Ministries.

GULF COAST HOME CARE is open to serve former and new patients. 800-489-1307

TRANSPORTATION is available by bus to the Kmart lot. Get supplies, visit with counselors from FEMA, Red Cross or SBA, go to the Pharmacy for prescription medicines, and have a hot meal at the Christian Center. If you have a small group in need of transportation to the Kmart lot the Hancock EOC Transportation Desk will schedule buses for your group. Call the Transportation Desk at 228-466-8212.

PHONE BANKS are available for FREE use at the following locations:

Winn Dixie (Dunbar & Esplanade)

Dolly's (603 x Kiln Delisle Rd) Diamondhead (Chevron)

Kmart (near Red Cross Tent) Waveland (342 Hwy 90, Tire Town) 297 Hwy 90 near Subway Kiln Library

WIRELESS INTERNET hubs are available at no cost at the Kiln Library, the Hancock County Tax Collector's office on Kiln Rd near Dolly's, and the Hancock County Hospital.

VOLUNTEERS ARE BADLY NEEDED to assist with Hancock County's recovery effort. Please register and receive assignments at the Volunteer Registration Center at the Kiln Library on Hwy 603. Kiln Library phone is 321-837-6443.

THE FOLLOWING restrictions are being enforced throughout Hancock County:

A Curfew remains in effect from 8:00p.m. through 6:00a.m. south of 1-10 and from 10pm until 6am north of 1-10.

A Burn Ban is in effect, No Burning of Debris or Trash.

Natural Gas is off throughout Hancock County.

To report gas leaks, fires or life threatening emergencies please call 911.

The BOIL WATER order has been lifted for those who get their water from Standard Dedeaux Water, Diamondhead and Kiln Water District.

For VESSEL SAL-

VAGE questions and assistance in planning salvage operations contact the US Coast Guard at 251-441-5368 or 5354.

If you suspect a **Hazardous Materials** threat please notify the EOC at 228-466-8214.

LOST PETS? The **Veterinary and pet recovery center** is located in Waveland (behind the Civic Center on Longfellow). Horses are being taken to the covered arena in Kiln. The Pearlington animal recovery facility has closed.

HOT MEALS (*Also a prescription center)

K-Mart parking lot*

Winn Dixie parking lot

2nd. Street Elementary

Bay St Louis Fire Dept.

Hancock North Central Elementary

Fred's (Across from Waveland Police Dept.)

Necaise (Hwy 603 & 53)

Points of Distribution (PODs) (for food, water and ice) Diamondhead

Charles B. Murphy School Bayou Talla Church

American Legion Post 5 Sav-A-Center

Gulfview Elementary, Lakeshore

Public Distribution Points (food water, ice, contributed clothing and household items)

Kmart (90 & 603)

Dedeaux School

Fred's

Bay St Louis High School

Lee's Chapel Baptist Church

2nd Street Elementary

TOWED VEHICLES are being taken to one of the following locations: Mike Renicaro's,

Charles Renicaro's, Moss Towing, Darryl Lacoste Towing, All Star Towing, Highway Patrol Lots and the Hancock Equine Center on Kiln Delisle Rd.

MOTORISTS ARE REMINDED TO STOP at all intersections without working traffic lights. Watch for people stopping suddenly in front of you at intersections.

USE EXTREME CAUTION DURING DEBRIS REMOVAL. Pay special attention to hanging branches and tree limbs under tension.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL OF DEBRIS ON ROADSIDES



NOW OPEN!

Kuttin Loose
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16329 Hwy 603 - Kiln

255-5363

CONGRESSMAN GENE TAYLOR will hold a HANCOCK COUNTY TOWN MEETING

Saturday,
September 24
9-11 a.m.

**Hancock County
Vo-Tech Center
at Stennis Airport**

Everyone is invited to attend.

Bayside -- Davis Family Grocery

Continued from Page 1

of ruined homes. They kept it open right up until the Saturday evening before the storm, selling supplies to their neighbors. That day, Davis said, county building official Mickey Lagasse came out and told Davis to shut down the business, citing him for having a lighted arrow sign, for open sewage, for having no certificate of occupancy, for having a port-a-potty, and for storing what Davis said was a neighbor's travel trailer, to keep it safe from the storm.

"I did open up without the certificate of occupancy," said Davis. "But I had my inventory and it was time to open. This community would have had no food for the first days after the storm if we hadn't opened. It would have been in serious shape."

Davis said he had a permit for the port-a-potty and had left the sewer connections open so that Lagasse could see them. Everyone has a lighted sign at their business, said Davis. Davis signed the citations, he said, and stayed open till he had to close Saturday night.

The store got about three feet of water, but the Davis' cleaned up quickly so they could offer their neighbors shelter. Jonathan said the store suffered little damage. Though he has not been a regular church



Jonathan and Beverly Davis

goer, Davis says, he thinks the Lord was working with him when he decided to open the store and get the inventory up.

"If I hadn't had the supplies and if the store hadn't been saved where would these people have gone," said Davis.

About 40 people still stay in and around the store. The facilities are better than many have with a washer and dryer,

showers, and lots of good food and companionship. About 95 to 98 percent of the supplies are being brought in by private donation, Davis said.

The Red Cross was delivering pot roast for lunch on Tuesday, served with cold orange juice. In the evenings Alan Garcia cooks meals outside and at noon a doctor stops by to treat patients. Medic Tom Beasley helps with dispensing medications

for cuts and scraps at the site. People show up for coffee about 6 a.m. No one is going hungry now with many private organizations and churches bringing in supplies.

It wasn't that way at first when the Davis' personal supplies were running low and very little relief was showing up. At first there was only enough MRE's for one meal a day. And it wasn't like people could run into

town for supplies—no one had a working car. By the fifth day after the storm, Davis said the National Guard had delivered enough meals for each family to take a whole box of meals.

When Supervisor David Yarborough came by about that time, Davis said, he asked him to make the location an official relief site with FEMA. The store became an official site but lost its status a few days later to Gulfview Elementary. A few days later it was put back on the official list because of the number of people depending on it.

Then one day there was no deliver.

Tired of the red tape, Davis drug a piece of plywood up to the highway and spray painted "Food Drop" in large letters. That is when donations began to come in from the private sector. There are even chain saws that can be checked out for the day or for the week to cut up trees or other debris.

Recently several ladies came out from FEMA and told Davis that he should reopen the store. He told them he couldn't

afford to restock for at least a couple of months or more.

"But they told me, no you don't understand, we will restock you and get the business going", he said. "I'm still waiting for them to come back out."

Meanwhile Davis says he is not going to turn his back on the community. He has several donated tents that he will continue to use to distribute free food and supplies, as well as in the store for the time being. In the rear of the store he has some possessions from a neighbors house that he saved and cleaned for them, treasured possessions, he said, hunting trophies and tapes.

On Sunday a representative from the Mississippi Employment office came out to talk to Davis about making the store a drop off and pick up point for local workers who don't have cars to drive to work. The way it has all worked out, Davis said, had restored his faith, and maybe, changed his way of thinking. He might even go to church, he said, but probably not every Sunday.

Council -- improvements

Continued from Page 1

people are already bringing in plans for rebuilding he wants to make sure property owners are protected. Should someone build to old regulations they could be in trouble later when new regulations take affect. Any additions, and any renovations which increase the value 50 percent or more would have to be built to new flood plain regulations.

The new regulations would affect property owners in areas considered a flood hazard area. If there is a question, the building office for all three entities is now located upstairs at the Bay St. Louis Train Depot. Flood maps are available at the office along with needed permits. The city has suspended all fees for residential permits for the time being. Carrigee said there were just a handful

of structures left in the city's A zone. Flood maps may also change, he said, because now the maps contain many zig zags and squiggly lines. It doesn't take a lot of sense to know that water is not going to know it is supposed to zig zag, he said. The increase in building and the fill that it has brought in has changed the flood plain area, he said.

In other business:

- Water valves are being checked individually for leaks. That is why your neighbor may have water and you may not, said Mayor Eddie Favre. It will take about two more weeks to make repairs, he said.

- Natural gas service may not be restored for a month or more. Each meter will have to be tested individually.

- Residents may return to their property in a

travel trailer even though services may not be restored for some time in their area. The city will not stop people from returning, but are encouraging them to try to park trailers at a friend or relative's house that has services.

- Please beware of price gouging. The city has stepped in and forced some contractors to stop work when price gouging is suspected. "We don't want to stop progress," said Favre. "But we want people to be aware that they may be taken advantage of if you are o.k. with it then it is o.k."

- Carrigee said he is preparing a list of comparison prices for home services so that consumers will have a guideline when approached by contractors. The list should be available for Sunday's paper, Carrigee said.

Hope -- town meeting

Continued from Page 1

the city's primary goal, followed very closely by working with citizens to return to their homes, helping local schools reopen and recovering the local economic base, including retail, service and industry.

The city has been overwhelmed by volunteers from throughout the United States and Canada and military assistance from Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and National Guard units from throughout the states.

"We are so very proud of our citizens. They

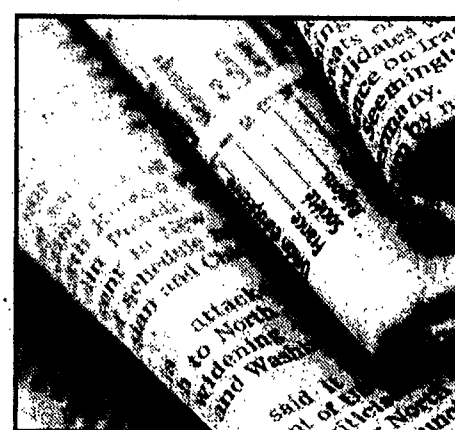
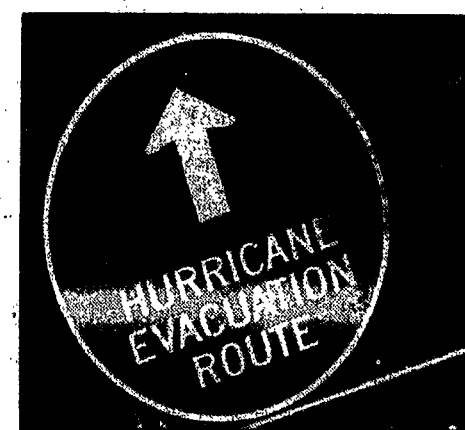
have been stalwart soldiers during our initial shock of devastation by this tragedy. They continue to show hospitality to our visitors in the best tradition of Bay Saint Louis. Citizens have committed themselves to our recovery and its time for a temperature check. We hope the town meeting will help to keep our energy level high."

Joining the Mayor will be Ron Vanney, Public Works Director, Fire Chief Robert Gavagnie, Police Chief Frank McNeil, Community Development Director

Buz Olsen and Code Enforcement Official Bill Carrigee. The City Council will also be available to meet with their constituents.

The city is also working with volunteers to have a movie shown with popcorn and lemonade after the meeting.

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efforts, and the hard work of all of our member newspapers around the state. It is in times such as these that we all find support, enlightenment and some comfort in the pages of our local newspaper. We know through their involvement and guidance, our Magnolia State will grow stronger in the future.

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from Page 1

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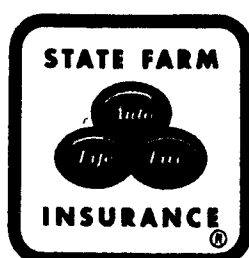
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Football season gets back under way

BY JOE GEX
Staff Writer

Hurricane Katrina scored first but she missed the extra point. The high school football season will resume for Bay High on Friday night with a district game against the Long Beach Bearcats at 7pm pending the decision on the curfew that is scheduled to begin at 8pm. Admission to the game is free and fans are encouraged to bring their own refreshments.

The Tigers (1-0) won

their first game of the season against Hancock the Friday before Katrina came ashore.

Bay High head coach Brenan Compretta has attempted to contact all the players in grades 7-12. Any players that have not had any contact with the Bay High coaching staff, please report to the Bay High football stadium as all football operations are being run at that site.

Brenan Compretta can be contacted at 228-216-0903, Jeff Hopgood at 228-305-0762, and

Jeremy Turcotte can be reached at 228-344-8010. The Hancock Hawks are planning to resume their season on September 30th which is one week from Friday. Any players that have not had contact from Hancock head coach Walt Esslinger, please contact him as soon as possible.

Pass Christian will travel to Poplarville for a 7 p.m. contest.

The St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws have decided not to resume the football season due to the

devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. This season was the 90th season of football at the school. SSC is set to open back up as a day school on November 1st. OLA students will also share facilities with SSC at this time. Several local area students were displaced by the storm and have relocated to continue their football season and academic studies.

SSC defensive tackle J C Brignone has relocated to Atlanta and Parkview High School and is still a

top Division I recruit. SSC quarterback Lance Cuevas is playing football in Alabama at Acadia High School while tailback Josh Duplesis has transferred to Starkville Academy.

SSC tight end Sylvester Twiggs, WR Josh Morgan, WR Jeremiah Morgan and DB Trevor Gex also have all relocated to continue school and sports.

In keeping with newspaper tradition, a player of the week for both offense and defense will continue to be selected

from the previous Friday night performance. This week both players of the week are selected from St. Stanislaus.

The Offensive Player of the Week is SSC RB Josh Duplessis. He tallied 245 all-purpose yards and scored twice in a 20-12 win over Wilkinson County. He rushed 18 times for 175 yards and had two catches for 70 yards.

The Defensive Player of the Week is DT J C Brignone who recorded 14 total tackles and two sacks.

Bay High players should contact the football coaches

Bay High will play Long Beach at home at 7 p.m. Friday night.

Admission is free. Bring your own refreshments.

Any players who have not been contacted, all football operations are at the stadium. Any player grade 7-12 can find the coaches at the stadium.

Coach Compretta can be reached at 228-216-0903, Coach Turcotte at 228-344-8010, and Coach Hopgood at 228-305-0762.

Pondering -- family tradition

Continued from Page 4

future. Then the bug bit him! The news bug. The day he returned from Hattiesburg, two days after the storm, he was on a bicycle, going into places unreachable with any vehicle, taking photos and notes for the newspaper.

He was the first media member to be registered at the EOC headquarters at Stennis Airport. He covered all the meetings and briefings, took aerial photos from a helicopter, from a three story lift bucket, etc. He's an excellent photographer and has a talent for writing. He may have found a career.

It's funny how some other media have responded to our

predicament here with the Sea Coast Echo. We have been featured in numerous newspapers and television news shows. Some have tried to make us into heroes and to give us much more credit than we deserve. We are simply doing our jobs.

Doing our best to keep the public informed, to provide some sense of a normal routine in this community, to record the suffering and the recovery. And recover we will.

Each day is a little better than the one before. Each day brings new successes, more homes are connected to power or water. Each day, more and more relief supplies roll into our area. Not

just food and water, but the things we need to get our lives back together.

As the publisher of the local newspaper, many out-of-town volunteer groups have been able to find my phone number and have been in contact. They all ask the same questions.

What do you need? How can we help? To each I preach the same story over and over. We have all the water, food and basic supplies we can possibly use.

In fact, we have so much of these items, that the officials have absolutely no place to store them.

The few remaining warehouse are completely filled. What we need

now are washing machines, clothes dryers, beds, linens, towels, school uniforms and supplies, etc. The items necessary to make a house a home and to maintain sanitary living conditions. The things we usually take for granted.

Bay St. Louis is often referred to as, "A Place Apart". To borrow a term heard earlier, a more apt slogan might be, "Bay

St. Louis, a Place Torn Apart." But don't write us off just yet. Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Hancock County and the entire Gulf Coast will be back.

We'll be back better than before. We'll be back because the people here are strong and determined. We live here because it is a very special place. And it will be again.

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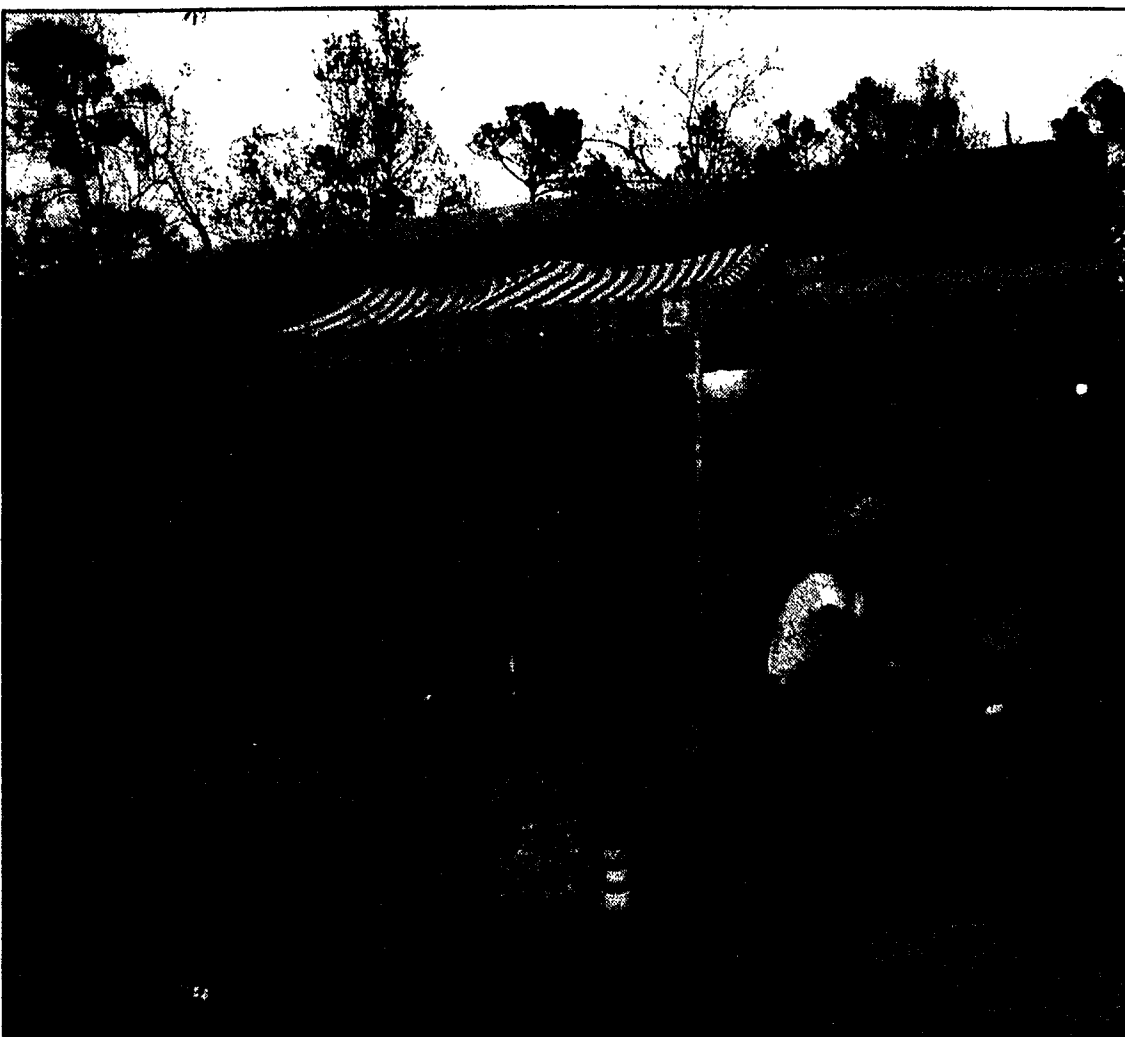
Making the most of Coast living after Hurricane Katrina



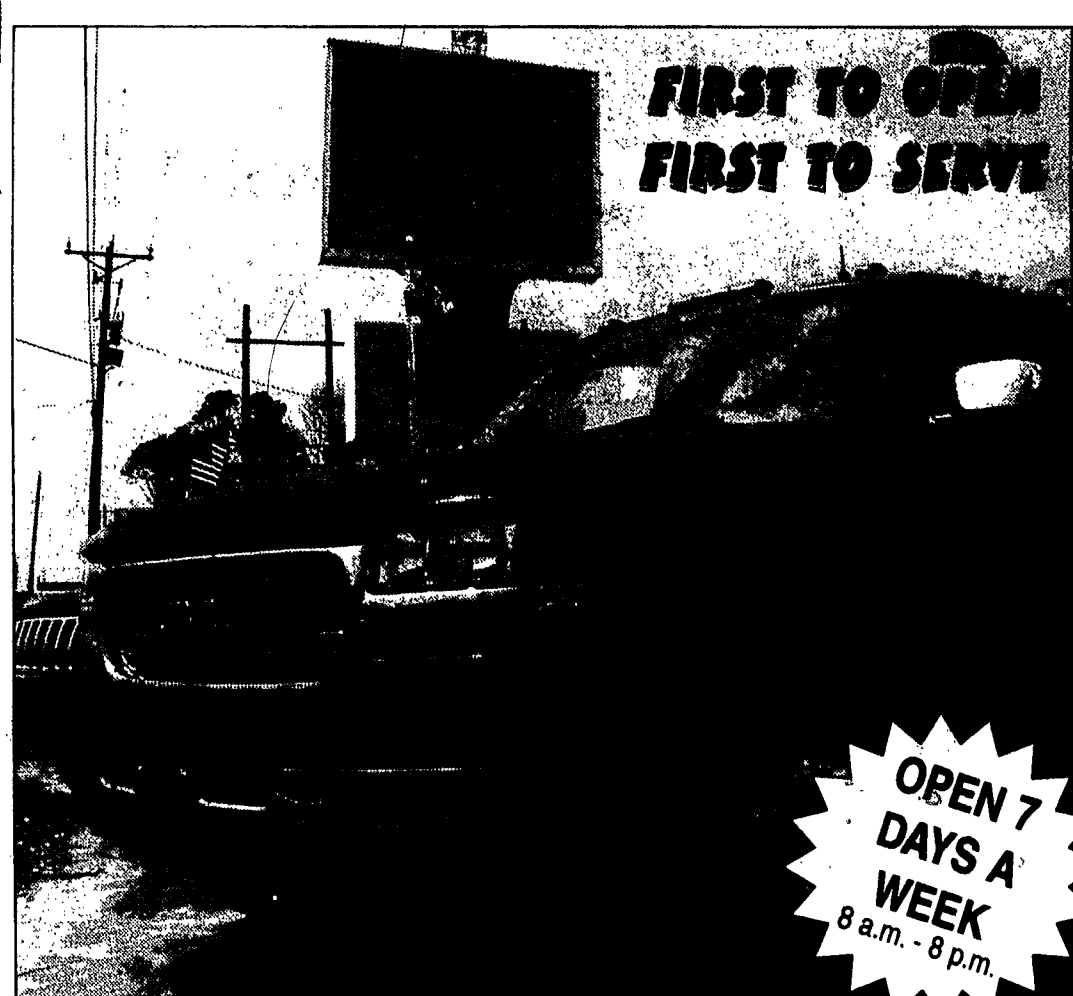
Echo staff photos by Jace Ponder
Left to right, Jay MacAniff of Waveland, George Puglia of Bay St. Louis, and Rick Silva of Bay St. Louis share stories of their Katrina experiences at the makeshift Good Life Beach Bar.



Rick Silva of Bay St. Louis plays guitar at the Good Life Beach Bar for any one who walks by. He is a former street musician from Jackson Square. He plays music nightly at the beach or at his Blalze Ave. home.



Echo staff photos by Randy Ponder
Friends gathered at the home of Michael and Jude Ferry last weekend for an informal dinner party. It was the first time several of the long time friends had seen each other since the hurricane.



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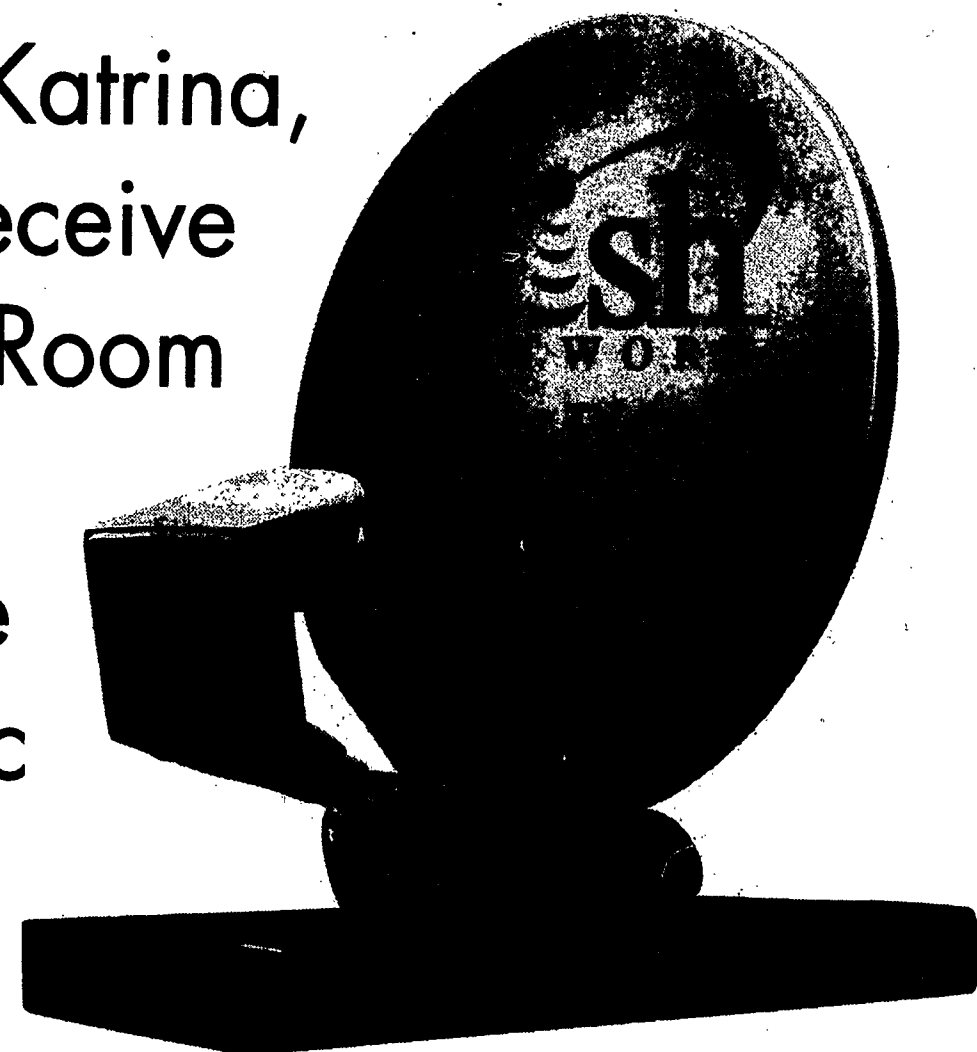
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A worker moves second hand clothing into a huge pile. The clothes are being removed to make room for a new shipment. The old clothes will be sorted, bundled and shipped to dry storage.

Echo staff photo by Jace Ponder

FEMA -- faq's

Continued from Page 4

name (or name of co-applicant). An Employer's statement refers to pay stubs and similar documents sent to you and showing the damaged dwelling address.

• Current Driver's License showing the address of the damaged dwelling. Where can I get information about flood insurance? Call a local, licensed casualty or property insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-427-4661.

Should I begin cleaning my home before the inspection? You may clean before the inspection. If possible, take photos of the damage before you clean. Remember to keep receipts for all of your expenses.

Disaster Loans: U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

Why did I receive a disaster loan application from SBA after applying with FEMA? SBA is the primary source of federal funds for long-term recovery assistance for disaster victims. For disaster damage to private property owned by homeowners, renters, and non-farm businesses of all sizes, which is not fully covered by insurance, the basic form of Federal help is a low-interest disaster loan from the SBA. By making affordable loans, the SBA disaster loan program helps disaster victims pay for their repairs while keeping costs to the taxpayer reasonable.

How can I get help filling out the application for an SBA disaster loan? SBA has loan officers in SBA local disaster offices to provide face-to-face service to disaster victims. You may visit

SBA at any of these locations, and without an appointment. An SBA representative will be glad to answer questions and to help complete your application. To find out where SBA disaster offices are located an applicant can call SBA toll-free at 1-800-488-5323.

If I have already received money from FEMA, but it was not enough to pay for all the work needed to fix the disaster damages, can I get more help? Yes. SBA disaster loans are available to cover the amount of repair costs that have not already been fully compensated. Application should be made to SBA for any additional amount needed to complete recovery.

I think I can pay for the repairs on my own, should I apply for a disaster loan? You may discover that the total costs to complete repairs on

your own are more than you planned. With an approved SBA loan, you will know that the funds to make full repairs are available. While no one wants additional debt, a low interest loan with affordable payments is a better alternative than not making complete disaster repairs.

What happens if I cannot afford a loan to repair damaged property? If SBA determines you cannot afford a loan, SBA will automatically refer you back to FEMA for additional help. FEMA may be able to provide money for other than housing needs, however this additional help is not available to businesses. FEMA's additional help is intended to meet necessary expenses and serious needs not met by any other form of help, including insurance and SBA disaster loans. Remember, if you were

sent an SBA disaster loan application, SBA will not refer you back to FEMA unless a completed loan application is returned to the SBA and SBA determines that you cannot afford a loan.

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Life at the P.O.D. Debris removal begins



Echo staff photo by Jane Ponder
Volunteers bring a palette of toys and clothes to the Post 58 Volunteer Fire Department. The station serves as the Point of Distribution for north Hancock County.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began debris removal for FEMA in Hancock County earlier this week.

To assist in making this operation as efficient as possible, the Corps requests residents to place debris on the rights-of-way and sort it into the following four piles: construction and demolition materials, vegetation, household waste items, white items (large appliances such as

refrigerators and TVs) and hazardous waste.

Operations began in the center of the county and will spread out from there. At this time, the Corps is currently determining the number of cubic yards that will need to be removed.

The Corps contracted with AshBritt, Inc., out of Pompano Beach, Fla.

To date, more than 150 large trucks are in the area and more than 10,000 cubic yards of

debris has been removed. The Corps expects to increase the number of trucks hauling by 50 a day for some time. Residents are requested to be careful around these trucks.

Debris removal is being coordinated with the MS Department of Environmental Quality and is being removed to debris landfills, where it will be separated, reduced and then disposed of.

Sheriff's department deals harshly with looters after Katrina

By GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

Your neighbor's debris pile may contain some nifty item you think you can save, but you might want to resist the temptation to help yourself. The Hancock County Sheriff's Department - aided by law enforcement officials from all over the nation - is cracking down hard on looters. "Personally," Hancock Sheriff Steve Garber said on Tuesday, "I would just as soon see 'em shot on the spot. People have lost just about everything they've got, and it's the lowest thing in the world to go in there and take what they've got left."

To date, the department has arrested 26 people for looting since Hurricane Katrina swept through on Aug. 29. Each one is being held on a \$25,000 cash bond at either the Pearl River or Harrison County jail.

Those arrested for looting in recent days include:

- Robert Collins, 41;
- Robert Lopez, 48;
- Hector Arronda, 28;
- Faustino Cortina, 39;
- Juan Hernandez, 40;
- James Nicholson, 25;
- Robert Redford, 23;
- Manuel Cerillo, 27;
- Ollie Franks III, 28;
- Gilbert Gonzales, 40;
- Joseph Ricky

- Richard, 27;
- Nicholas Lenain, 27;
- Elesair Gutierrez, 36;
- Kim Bourgeois, 21;
- David Winkles, 24;
- Jerry Nisse, 40;
- Eutima Mezquite, 39;
- Reuben Rodriguez, 48;
- Ricardo Hernandez, 43;
- Donald Lyons, 58;
- Valention Hernandez, 34;
- Domingo Martino, 37;
- Michael Frierson, 23;
- Oliver Sayers, age not available;
- Richard Wilson, age not available;
- and Eddie Gray, age not available.

The Postal Service wants to get your mail to you!

The Postal Service wants to get your important mail, such as your payroll and benefit checks, bills, and medicines to you right away.

We can't do that if you haven't submitted a Postal Service change of address form with your

current mailing address, whether it is temporary or permanent.

There are three ways to notify us of a change of address so we can forward your mail to you.

The fastest is by going to USPS.com.

If you don't have

Internet access, call us at 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777).

Or you can stop by the nearest Post Office to you and fill out a change of address form.

Do that and we'll be able to get your mail to you.

Fletcher-Kingston wedding relocation

Roxanne Fletcher and Trevor Kingston's wedding ceremony will be held at the bride's home,

1508 Nicholson Ave., at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

All friends are invited and welcomed to attend.

A reception will follow in several months.

Quinlans

Continued from Page 2

all night and got all of the kids proper identification to travel with."

Then the Quinlans were able to contact the Korean Consulate, who it turns out was already in Baton Rouge, helping his countrymen who had been living in New

Orleans and were seeking refuge after Katrina. He helped the 14 Korean students get safe lodging with friends and family elsewhere in the states and overseas.

"It took awhile to get all the kids taken care of," Adrienne said, "but

the host families in Baton Rouge put us up like kings.

The Quinlans are now back home in Waveland, cleaning up after the storm and hoping the next one passes them by.

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The scene this week on Lower Bay Road near St. John's Catholic Church.

Echo staff photo by Randy Ponder

NASA names Parsons as new temporary Stennis Space Center director

NASA named William (Bill) W. Parsons as the new director of NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center (SSC) in south Mississippi, effective immediately. Parsons succeeds RAdm. Thomas Q. Donaldson V, USN (Ret.). Parsons returns to the position he held prior to becoming Space Shuttle program manager in May 2003.

As Space Shuttle program manager, Parsons led the Return to Flight activities for the agency and played a major role in the recent success of the Discovery STS-114 mission. His first stint as SSC center director came in August 2002. He was first assigned to SSC in 1997 as the chief of operations of the Propulsion Test Directorate. Parsons

relocated to NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC), Houston, to become the director of the Center Operations Directorate. He later served as the deputy director of JSC. He returned to SSC in 2001 and served as director of the Center Operations and Support Directorate.

Parsons has received numerous honors, including NASA's Exceptional Service Medal; the National Intelligence Medal of Achievement; the Silver Snoopy, awarded by astronauts for outstanding performance in flight safety and mission success; the Center Directors' Commendation; and the Commandant's Certificate of

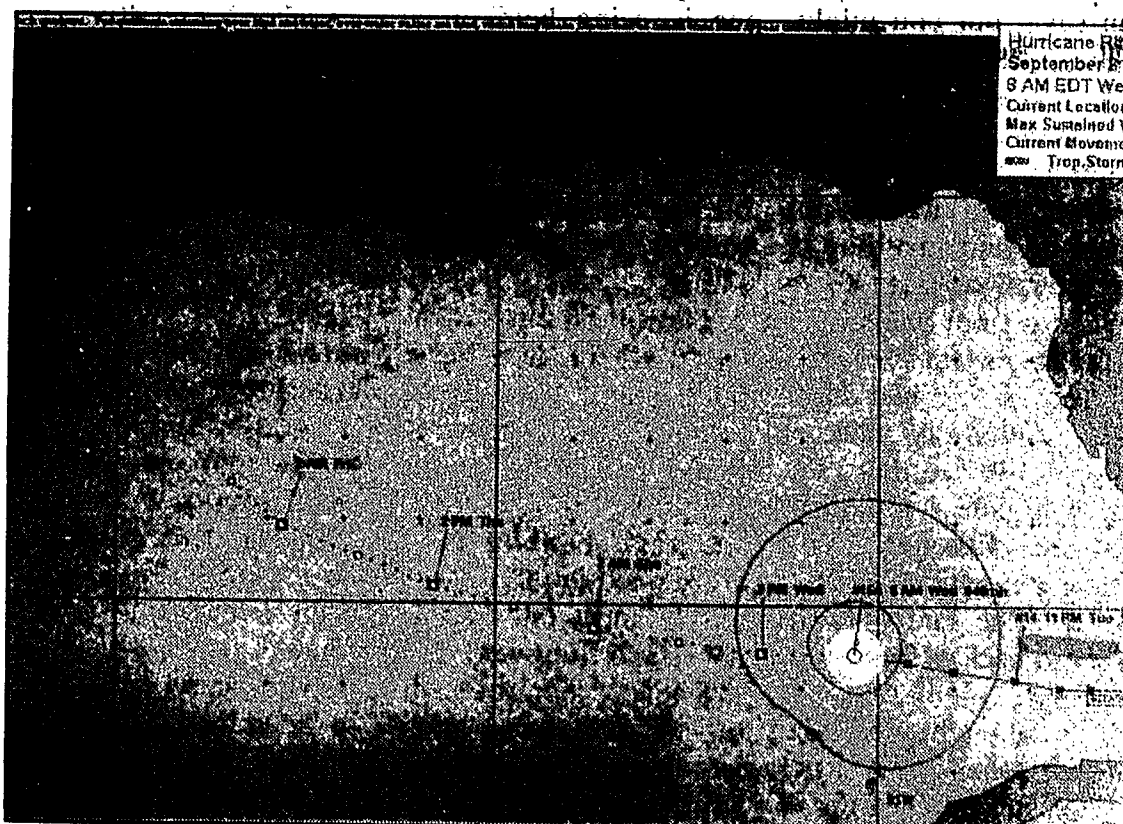
Commendation from the U.S. Marine Corps.

He holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Mississippi and a master's degree in engineering management from the University of Central Florida.

Donaldson is on a special assignment to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help with recovery efforts in Mississippi. Deputy Shuttle Program Manager Wayne Hale is acting Space Shuttle program manager.

For more information about NASA, the Space Shuttle program and space flight on the Internet, visit: www.nasa.gov or www.nasa.gov/returntoflight.

Hurricane Rita



As of 10 a.m. Wednesday, the National Hurricane Center was still predicting that Hurricane Rita would continue on its present course and make landfall in the U.S. near Galveston.

Mississippi Youth Soccer works to put kids back on the field

Just two weeks after the Hurricane Katrina tore through Mississippi and Louisiana, parents and kids struggling to return to a normal life, are trying to do so by getting back to the start of their soccer seasons.

MYSA president, David Dodd, has talked to many league officials on the coast. "While many people are without homes and schools, we have been getting calls to

help reestablish soccer programs on the coast."

MYSA, the national governing body for soccer in Mississippi, is working closely with its members to assess their needs to that they can get kids back into a near normal environment. Says Dodd, "Children depend on daily routines. They wake up, eat breakfast, go to school, play with friends. When emergencies or disasters interrupt

this routine, children may become anxious."

According to MYSA Executive Director, Brent Clements, "Katrina took goals and nets and destroyed them beyond repair". Other needs include uniforms and shinguards. For more information or to help, contact MYSA at 601-982-5198, www.mysams.org, or e-mail office@mysams.org.

Free pet services available

A veterinary and pet recovery center has been established in Pearllington, across the street from the fire department and behind the civic Center on Longfellow in Waveland. Horses are being taken to the covered arena in Kiln. Another veterinary

center is located on 27th St. off Hwy 49 North of Pass Road in Gulfport.

Contact these facilities if looking for lost pets.

Free disaster medical help is available in Bay, Waveland

DISASTER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TEAMS (DMAT) are providing medical serv-

ices and treatment at no cost at the Kmart and at Hancock Hospital.

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Hurricane gives Marine's daughter a mission: To find her father's flag

THE SEA COAST
ECHO

As the U.S. Marines headed for the communities ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, the daughter of one leatherneck was on her own mission to find one of the only things she regretted leaving behind: the flag that had draped her father's coffin.

Two days after the storm, Millissa Dunhurst and her brother, Bryan, left the safe refuge of friends in Jackson, Miss., determined to reach the home they shared in Waveland, Miss., two blocks from the Gulf of Mexico.

As they drove through what was left of Waveland, the prospects of finding anything looked grim. "It was absolutely devastating to anticipate what the neighborhood would look like," Millissa said. "The closer we got, we knew what we were going to see. But we had to look."

There was no one around. It was quiet. And it was grim, indeed. About a mile from the house they couldn't drive through the debris anymore and had to hike in. "It was like walking through a graveyard," she said. "It felt sacrilegious to be walking through other people's belongings."

When Millissa found someone else's photographs, she would put them up on something in plain view to make them easier to find. She knows how important they are to people. She had taken her own family pictures and other things she knew she couldn't replace - like her grandmother's china - even though she had only an hour to pack before evacuating.

She thought the flag, her father's Marine Corps cap and his official portrait were safe, in the top of her closet. "The water won't get that high," she told herself before leaving, looking up at the priceless pieces of her life - and the life of her father, John Henry



Millissa Dunhurst, with a photo of her father, John Henry Kiefer.

Kiefer. Then she left.

The next day, Katrina reduced the three-bedroom brick home to rubble with a hit so hard it rocked the foundation slab.

Three blocks away from where her home once stood, Millissa found her mattress. "I just wandered around digging through this," she said, holding up a color photograph of scattered lumber piles, appliances and lifetimes.

Then, about two blocks away from where her home once stood, Millissa walked past something stuck in the mud that made her go back and look again. It was her father's cap, upside down, otherwise undamaged. A few feet away lay the flag, a crumpled survivor of

Hurricane Katrina.

She also found a portrait of her father and one of her youngest brother, Christopher, who earned a Bronze Star in the Gulf War and now serves with USMC Special Intelligence. "It's an absolute miracle that among those millions of pieces of wood I could find those things," Millissa said. "There's no reason I should have been able to find what I found."

After about four hours of searching, sister and brother hiked out of the desolation the way they came in, leaving the remains of the house they moved into only four months before, perhaps for good. "I left there with what I found in an ice chest and said, 'I don't think I'll ever need

to go back down there again,'" she said.

They headed north for Kiln, Miss., where Millissa had lived for 20 years before moving to Waveland, and where she cared for her father during the last four years of his life.

That home was destroyed, too. When they arrived at her girlfriend's house in Kiln, there were about 20 people there: her girlfriend's sister, mother, father, all their children, other relatives - all their homes destroyed, too.

The storm hit on a Monday. On Friday, Millissa returned to work as an administrative assistant at Lockheed Martin Technical Operations at NASA's Stennis Space Center, Miss., about 15 miles

northwest of Waveland. "The busier I stay, the less I think about it," she said.

For now, she's staying in temporary housing at Stennis, unsure of where she might live. But she loves the Gulf Coast, and she's proud of her community. "There's a lot more than what people see on TV," she said. "There are so many people caring for others, and neighbors are meeting each other for the first time. I've seen more support from the community than ever. I just pray that people will stay behind and rebuild. If everybody leaves this community, it will die."

She's also very thankful. "I just hope people know that God is still in the business of miracles, and that this isn't all bad," she said. "Finding those precious bits of my father's life was absolutely a miracle. They were the only things that I regretted leaving."

Meanwhile, Millissa is on another mission. She wants to get the flag and her father's cap properly cleaned. She wants to learn how to properly fold the flag. And she wants to restore and preserve the photographs. Then she'll send them all to Christopher.

Temporary housing assistance

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in conjunction with the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), has developed several temporary housing options for individuals who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Manufactured

Housing Units (Travel Trailers, Mobile Homes and other pre-fabricated structures) are being brought into the State of Mississippi to provide interim housing for individuals who have lost their homes.

How is the placement of Travel Trailers and

Mobile Homes being determined?

There are a number of parallel activities taking place relating to the placement of Travel Trailers (TT) and Mobile Homes (MH). Existing facilities (Commercial MH and RV parks, cabins, apartments, etc.) that

have working utilities, or require minor site preparation, will be examined first. Emergency Group Sites (EGS) will be placed in areas that can be easily developed with little infrastructure improvement. Individual private site identification is ongoing and concurrent with field surveys.

Do you need emergency medical care?

With Hancock Medical Center temporarily out of service due to Hurricane Katrina, a group of doctors, nurses and others from North

Carolina are operating a mobile hospital in Waveland and are ready to help you with any type of medical situation.

The hospital is located

at 344 Hwy. 90 in the K-Mart parking lot and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is no charge for treatment or care.

If you have a life-threatening emergency, contact 911. All other patients are welcome to come to the field hospital.

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The hurricane has taken away a lot, but we're still here to serve you, just as we have been for almost four decades.

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Please accept this sincere invitation. If you need transportation, Mandal Pontiac Buick GMC will do whatever it takes to help.

Sincerely,
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General Manager
Mandal Pontiac Buick GMC

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Hurricane Katrina Resource Numbers

Federal Emergency Management Agency:

1-800-621-3362
(TTY: 1-800-462-7585)

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency:

601-352-9100

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

1-800-311-3435

American Red Cross:

1-866-GET-INFO (1-866-438-4636)

Mississippi Department of Health:

General information:
1-866-HLTHY4U (1-866-458-4948)

Epidemiology reporting line:

1-800-556-0003

West Nile virus Hotline:

Mississippi Department of Health District Offices:

(As phone service is restored statewide)
District One: (662) 563-5603

Coahoma, Desoto,
Grenada, Lee, Panola,
Tallahatchie, Tate,
Tunica, Quitman,
Yalobusha

District Two: (662) 841-9015

Alcorn, Benton,
Itawamba, Lafayette,
Lee, Marshall, Pontotoc,
Prentiss, Tippah,
Tishomingo, Union

District Three: (662) 453-4563

Attala, Bolivar,
Carroll, Holmes,
Humphreys, Leflore,
Montgomery, Sunflower,
Washington

District Four: (662) 323-7313

Calhoun, Chickasaw,
Choctaw, Clay,
Lowndes, Monroe,
Noxubee, Oktibbeha,
Webster, Winston

District Five: (601) 978-7864

Claiborne, Copiah,
Hinds, Issaquena,
Madison, Rankin,
Sharkey, Simpson,
Yazoo, Warren

District Six: (601) 482-3171

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Kemper, Lauderdale,
Leake, Neshoba,
Newton, Scott, Smith

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Covington, Forrest,
Greene, Jefferson Davis,
Jones, Lamar, Marion,
Perry, Wayne

District Nine: (228) 831-5151
George, Hancock,
Harrison, Jackson, Pearl
River, Stone

Additional resources

for locating loved ones:

National Next of Kin
Registry: 1-360-739-
7 2 0 6
American Red Cross: 1-
877-LOVED-1S (1-877-
568-3317)

Resource numbers for those who wish to help in the relief effort

To make donations:

American Red Cross:

1-800-HELP-NOW
(1-800-435-7669)

Mississippi
Emergency Management
Agency Donation
Hotline:

601-360-0861 or 1-

866-230-8906

Salvation Army:

1-800-725-2769

To volunteer:

Physicians and
Emergency Medical
Technicians:

601-576-8085

Nurses:

601-497-8022

Physicians and nurses
out of state:

1-800-272-2707

Professional Search
and Rescue Volunteers:

601-360-0937

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No Fees On ATMs

Hancock Bank is waiving and/or rebating its charges for customers who use non-Hancock ATMs in areas affected by Hurricane Katrina until further notice. More Hancock ATMs are becoming operational each day.

Branches Are Reopening Daily

Every day, another Hancock branch reopens to serve you. As of September 16, Hancock Bank has 86 branches open, including 36 in Mississippi, 45 in Louisiana and all five Florida branches. Visit www.hancockbank.com for daily updates on branch openings.

Two Easy Ways To Reorder Checks

If your checks were lost during Katrina, you can reorder by going online at www.hancockbank.com or calling 1-800-355-8123 (reference code: L3). Please be aware that the Post Office has temporarily suspended mail delivery to some of the hardest hit areas. This may prolong delivery time or make it necessary for your checks to be delivered to an alternate address or the closest available branch. Hancock associates will work with you to ensure prompt, secure delivery of your checks.

Special Disaster Relief Offers

From fee relief to expedited services on new mortgages, loan payment relief for those who qualify and discounted rates on new consumer installment loans*, Hancock Bank can help. We've assembled a variety of resources to make recovery and rebuilding easier and faster. Ask us for details today.

If you have a question or need information regarding your accounts, please visit www.hancockbank.com or call one of these numbers:

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